Program Preferences

1) Regional projects or programs

The Finnon Lake Restoration and Habitat Improvement Project is integrated into the CABY (Cosumnes American Bear Yuba) IRWMP and has gone through a regional acceptance process and stakeholder collaboration through workgroups. The Workgroups were formed with diverse representation from the water supply industry, agriculture, business, recreation, watershed collaboratives, conservation groups, and city and county governments, and worked hard to define water management strategies important to the CABY region today and for the future.

- 2) Effectively integrate water management programs and projects within a hydrologic region identified in the California Water Plan; the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) region or subdivision; or other region or sub-region specifically identified by DWR
- 3) Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions
- 4) Contribute to attainment of one or more of the objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Water Quality, Levees, Water Supply, Ecosystem Restoration

The Finnon Lake Restoration and Habitat Improvement Project contributes to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program objective for Ecosystem Restoration by restoring forest lands, wetlands, and aquatic habitats.

- 5) Address critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities within the region
- 6) Effectively integrate water management with land use planning
- 7) For eligible SWFM (Storm Water Flood Management) funding, projects which: a) are not receiving State funding for flood control or flood prevention projects pursuant to PRC §5096.824 or §75034 or b) provide multiple benefits, including, but not limited to, water quality improvements, ecosystem benefits, reduction of in-stream erosion and sedimentation, and groundwater recharge.

The Finnon Lake Restoration and Habitat Improvement Project is not receiving State funding for flood control or flood prevention projects and is not part of the State Plan of Flood Control. The project does provide multiple benefits including 1) a range of ecosystem benefits through the creation of wetland habitat, the improvement of fish spawning, rearing and adult habitat, the improvement of a viable fisheries population within the lake comprising of several species of fish, and the enhancement of the surrounding forest lands for fuels reduction and habitat; 2) the reduction of in-stream erosion and sedimentation to the downstream Jaybird Creek by decreasing the flow from the lake to the creek due to the increased carrying capacity of the lake; and 3) the full capacity of the lake will contribute to groundwater recharge for the surrounding aquifers.

8) Address Statewide priorities (Table 1 establishes the specific Statewide Priorities for the IRWM Grant Program.)

Drought Preparedness, Use and Reuse Water more Efficiently, Climate Change Response Actions, Expand Environmental Stewardship, Practice Integrated Flood Management, Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality, Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources, Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits.

The Finnon Lake Restoration and Habitat Improvement Project will promote and improve upon environmental stewardship in the area to protect and enhance the environment by improving watersheds to sustain water and flood management ecosystems. This will be achieved through the improvement of dilapidated infrastructure and aquatic habitat.